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Työn nimi-Arbetets titel-Title The unbearable burden of forgetting : tracing the roots of kemalist nationalism in late ottoman period			
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Tiivistelmä-Referat-Abstract Unbearable Burden of Forgetting is about emergence of Turkish Nationalism. In the official history writings of Turkey, M. Kemal Atatürk is regarded as the father of Turkish Nation, thus nationalism. However defining the concept of nationalism for the Kemalist Period is not so easy, as Atatürk in 1923 when introducing the concept to Turkish nation regarded it as a self evident principle. During 1920s and 1930s M. Kemal emphasized common history and common will to stay together as constituting a nation. He saw reaching the highest level of civilizations as the ultimate aim. In practice, however, religious, lingual and ethnic elements played a greater role in defining Turkish nationalism. The thesis aims to clarify this ambiguity created. Hence turns to 19th century Ottoman Era when nationalism started to flourish. In the Ottomans the principles Ottomanism, Islamism and Turkism came to compensate the sentiment of nationalism. Thus through analysing what these principles meant and what the circumstances that gave rise to them were, how 19th century came to shape Kemalist nationalism is studied. The question thesis puts forward is: Can the late Ottoman history provide reasons why Mustafa Kemal emphasized on different elements of what constituted a nation at different times and why his understanding of nationalism provides space for ambiguity, or is there simply an inconsistency in the early Republican politics on nationalism? The research is done based on a selected literature review of first hand sources; M. Kemal's speeches and writings as well as Ziya Gökalp's and Yusuf Akcura's books on Turkism and on secondary sources; contemporary studies on Turkish History and on the concept nationalism. Chapter 2 provides pieces from M. Kemal's speeches to clarify the inconsistency of emphasis over different elements. Chapter 3 describes the general situation in 19th century Ottomans in order to understand the circumstances when and how nationalism flourished. Chapter 4 introduces Ottomanism, Islamism and Turkism, three ideologies that have tried to create a common identity to prevent the empire from breaking apart. Chapter 5 analyses further the ideology surrounding Turkism from Gökalp's and Akcura's points of view. Chapter 6 focuses on early 20th century, how Turkism came to be used by Union and Progress Party and how Turkish Houses shaped the notion. Chapter 7 briefly looks at post WWI Anatolia in order to understand the circumstances of the time Republic declared its independence. The thesis at the end comes to the solution that there is a historical reason why Atatürk had the need to emphasize on different elements. Traditionally religion had defined Turkishness and had come to shape policies as well as relations. Only Ottomanism had solely emphasized on subjective elements; that is history and will. Once it failed there was evident need in emphasizing on traceable elements. This is very similar to what Kemalist nationalism did. Although Atatürk rejected the Ottoman past and disregarded any connections to it, the continuity in nationalism is clear. Studying Kemalist nationalism within the historical context that includes late Ottoman era helps one understand better nationalism in Kemalist period.			
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